

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03873 221427Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00
SSO-00 L-03 /052 W
-----078060 221432Z /50
O R 221410Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2022
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3873

PASS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, BDIS, TU
SUBJ: TRADE COMPLAINT: CONTINENTAL GRAIN COMPANY

REF: (A) STATE 90256, (B) ANKARA 2784, (C) ANKARA 3371

1. AGATT HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND TMO OFFICIALS SINCE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE YUCELER ON APRIL 28, 1978. ALL OF THE DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THAT DATE HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED TO TOM WALDECK OF CONTINENTAL GRAIN IN GENEVA BY PHONE. THE ARE THE FOLLOWING:

A. TMO SUBMITTED ITS RECOMMENDATION ON THE CONTINENTAL PROPOSAL BY MAY 8 AND FORWARDED IT TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE THAT DAY IN COMPLIANCE WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON APRIL 28 THAT A REPLY WAS TO BE MADE WITHIN 7 TO 10 DAYS OF THE MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR. MINISTER STATED APRIL 28 THAT GOT DECISION WOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO CONTINENTAL GRAIN, NEW YORK, WITH A COPY TO THE EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY HAS NOT YET BEEN INFORMED OF THE DECISION. (REF A).
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B. DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE SOYSAL HAD PROMISED THE AGATT THAT HE WOULD ASK THE MINISTER ON MAY 18 WHAT ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN IN REPLYING TO TED SORENSEN'S LETTER OF MARCH 21 BUT HE DID NOT REPLY BEFORE HE LEFT THE COUNTRY ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

C. ECON COUNSELOR WAS RECENTLY INFORMED BY
AMBASSADOR BEHIC HAZAR, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR BILATERAL
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, THAT SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SUKRU ELEKDAG, HAD BRIEFED
THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN
THE CONTINENTAL GRAIN DISPUTE AS HE HAD PROMISED THE
AMBASSADOR HE WOULD DO DURING THEIR MEETING ON
APRIL 13.

2. COMMENT. A POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT TMO PROPOSAL
HAS BEEN SENT TO OTHER MINISTRIES FOR THEIR APPROVAL
BEFORE A FINAL RESPONSE IS MADE TO CONTINENTAL GRAIN.
EMBASSY OFFICIALS WILL TRY TO SEE THE MINISTER,
NOW OUT OF ANKARA, TO ASCERTAIN PRECISELY THE REA-
SON FOR THE DELAY IN RESPONDING TO THE CONTINENTAL
GRAIN OFFER.
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